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President KIM IL SUNG Wires Sympathy to Bulgarian Counterpart

Relief Materials Sent to Romania

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and myself, express deep sympathy and consolation to you and, through you, to the people in the afflicted areas.

I firmly believe that the fraternal Bulgarian people under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party headed by Comrade Todor Zhivkov will recover from the earthquake damages and stabilize the life of the people in the afflicted areas at an early date.

Government Decision

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea decided to send relief materials to the Government of the Romanian Socialist Republic in connection with the heavy damages caused by a big earthquake in some areas of Romania recently.

The relief materials imbued with our people's sentiments of firm solidarity and fraternal friendship to the Romanian people who have turned out en masse in the struggle to recover from the earthquake damages will be conveyed to the Government of the Romanian Socialist Republic through a fast expedient.

Chongryun

Han Duk Su, Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), sent a message of sympathy on March 7 to Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Romanian Socialist Republic, in connection with the big earthquake damages in some areas of Romania.

Rodong Sinmun Brands Fukuda's Opposition to GI Withdrawal as Anachronistic

Japanese Prime Minister Fukuda, referring to the "question of the U.S. troop pullback from south Korea" at an interview with home and foreign reporters on March 10, reaffirmed his opposition to the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea. In this connection Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) Mar. 14 runs a commentary headed "Act Going against the Trend of the Times Must Be Curbed."

The commentary says:

Why are the Japanese authorities doggedly opposed to the pullout of the U.S. forces from south Korea at a time when the entire Korean people and all the peace-loving people of the world unanimously demand it and Americans themselves say that they will withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea? This is a reckless act of the ambitious militarists against Korea.

The developments in Korea substantiate that the U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the main obstacle to the reunification of Korea and the principal factor constantly keying up the tension in Korea.

The prolonged presence of the U.S. troops in south Korea will result in keeping Korea divided indefinitely and creating the danger of war there.

Needless to say, this does not accord with the interests of Japan. Japan will benefit in no way if a war breaks out in her neighbour. The reunification of Korea, her neighbour, and the stabilized situation there will be beneficial to Japan. The split of Korea will bring nothing good to her.

The so-called "equilibrium doctrine" of the Japanese authorities claiming that the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea will upset the "balance of forces" and endanger peace is nothing but a sophistry distorting the reality of Korea.

It does not hold water to claim that the U.S. troops must keep occupying south Korea to maintain the "balance of forces" between the north and south.

It is intolerable that troops of a country, an uninvited guest, are allowed to occupy other's country and maintain the "balance of forces" there.

The rash act of those going against the trend of the times will bring nothing good to them.

The Japanese Government must correct its unwarranted stand of opposing the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea and stop hampering the reunification of Korea.

Flays Seoul for Selling Internal Organs for US B-Weapon Tests

To murder fellow countrymen by using them as a bacteriological weapon test in subservience to the foreign imperialists—such act can be committed only by the traitors who think nothing of the nation and man and permit themselves at any crime to gratify their lust for "power," says Rodong Sinmun Mar. 13 in a commentary.

It was brought to light continuously that the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique have sold more than 4,000 human kidneys to the "general institute," a U.S. bacteriological warfare laboratory, every year since 1970 and internal organs of south Korean inhabitants to the U.S. bacteriological war criminals to be used in their bacteriological weapon test.

Flaying the criminal act of the puppet clique, the commentary says:

As widely known, the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are the servants and accomplices of the U.S. in the bacteriological weapon test. They offered south Korea as a base and south Korean people as an object to back up the U.S. bacteriological weapon test for developing the virus of epidemic haemorrhagic fever.

With the help of the south Korean puppet clique the U.S. bacteriological war criminals settled the virus of epidemic haemorrhagic fever in south Korea in recent years and have committed the vicious bacteriological weapon test. As a result, epidemic haemorrhagic fever has spread in almost all parts of south Korea, taking a toll of over 20,000 human lives by the end of last year.

It is to confirm the "result" of the large-scale test in south Korea and make a full-scale study of bacteriological weapons to be used against Koreans that the bacteriological war criminals are carrying to the bacteriological weapon research centre the internal organs of the victims of bacteriological weapon test and other south Korean inhabitants.

The south Korean puppet clique who have bartered away the interests of the country and the nation to the foreign aggressors now unhesitatingly commit the intolerable treacherous act of offering the land as a U.S. bacteriological weapon testing ground and south Korean people as an object of this test and transporting the internal organs of fellow countrymen to the U.S. mainland, conspiring with the criminal demand of the bacteriological war criminals for the completion of their bacteriological weapon test.

The commentary denounces the south Korean puppets' base act designed to cover up their crime and stresses that the people will never pardon the criminals.

S. Korean Workers Struggle

South Korean workers are waging a persistent struggle in various forms for the freedom of trade union activities and wage hike and against the violation of human rights and unreasonable dismissal, despite the harsh repression by the Pak Jung Hi fascist regime.

On March 10, over 1,500 workers, laymen and people of other sections gathered at the Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul to hold a large-scale anti-"government" rally and made public a "declaration for workers' human rights" demanding democratic reforms.

It was disclosed that the declaration had been published by the "urban industrial and rural missionary council." The organization with Ms. Cho Hwa Sun as chairman is said to have 80 members. Ten Catholic and Protestant leaders are reportedly working for the council as advisers, including bishop Chi Hak Sun and pastor Kim Gwan Sok, general secretary of the south Korean federation of Christian churches.

According to reports from Seoul, management feels uneasy with their activities. It is said the missionary council will turn out in criticizing foreign companies which have massed in south Korea under Pak regime's economic policy designed to introduce foreign capital.

Follows the gist of the declaration:

I. Ensure the rights to unity, collective bargaining and collective action, the "three rights of labour."

1. Immediately withdraw the "law on special measures for national security and defence" and "emergency decrees" encroaching upon the basic rights of workers.

1. Reject the illegal and inhumane step of the management forcing 12 or more hours of labour a day under the pretext of export.

1. Denounce some trade union "leaders" who cause damage to workers by aligning themselves with the employers and approving and conniving at the illegal act of enterprises.

1. Denounce the employers for forcing unpaid labour upon workers under the name of the "new village movement" and lining their pocket.

1. The "government" must institute the minimum wage and ensure the living of workers.

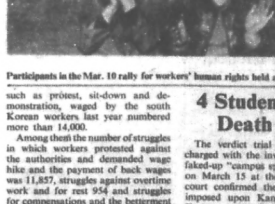
1. Raise the low wages at once.

1. Stop holding back the rights of the working people for the introduction of foreign capital. The "regime" must severely watch the oppression by foreign capital-operated enterprises.

According to figures made public by the labour office, various struggles, such as protest, sit-down and demonstration, waged by the south Korean workers last year numbered more than 14,000.

Among them the number of struggles in which workers protested against the authorities and demanded wage hike and the payment of back wages was 11,887, struggles against overtime work and for rest 954 and struggles for compensations and the betterment of their conditions 1,345.

The south Korean workers also waged many struggles against the employers, opposing such violation of human rights as search of body and ban on outings and demanding the freedom of trade union activities and other democratic freedom and rights.



Participants in the Mar. 10 rally for workers' human rights held at a Seoul church

4 Students Get Death Rap

The verdict trial of the students charged with the involvement in the faked-up "campus spying case" held on March 15 at the Seoul supreme court confirmed the death sentence imposed upon Kang Jong Hon, a Korean student from Japan studying at the medical college of Seoul University, at the second trial, according to a foreign press report from Seoul.

Also confirmed were prison terms up to 8 years inflicted upon seven other students on the similar charges.

With this the Pak Jung Hi fascist clique passed capital punishment and heavy penalties on 17 "defendants," out of the 18 whom they referred to the murderous trial after rigging up the "campus spying case" in November 1975. A death sentence was finally passed on four "defendants."

The fascist clique alleged that those students whom they arrested on charges of involvement in the faked-up "campus spying case" are "spies" and plotted a "rebellion." But, the falsity of this allegation has been fully laid bare.

The supreme court on March 8 dismissed the appeal of Li Chol, a Korean student from Japan, and confirmed the death sentence imposed upon him at the second trial on the same charges.

On the same day the prison term of three years and six months was forced upon Min Hyang Suk, wife of Li Chol.

On February 8 the supreme court dismissed the appeals of two Korean students from Japan charged with involvement in this false case and confirmed the decision at the second trial, prison terms of ten years and seven years, respectively.

Paek Ok Gwang and Kim Chol Hyon were already sentenced to death at the supreme court.

Chongryun Demands for Change in Japan's Immigration Policy

Ha Chang Ok, Director of the Social Affairs Department, and Yun Sang Chol, Director of the International Department, of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), recently called at the Japanese Ministry of Justice and demanded the authorities concerned immediately release the Koreans detained for a long period in the Omura Concentration Camp in Nagasaki prefecture.

They were accompanied by Yonoda Togo, Socialist member of the Japanese House of Representatives.

The representatives of Chongryun handed over to the authorities concerned a letter from the Central Standing Committee of Chongryun to the Japanese Minister of Justice.

Noting that the Koreans detained under detention in the Omura Concentration Camp at present is a product of the colonial policy of Japanese imperialism over Korea in the past period, the letter stressed: It is only too natural that families forced to live separated under oppression and for a long period of years by the Japanese imperialists wish reunion and act in that direction.

The letter strongly demanded the Japanese Government satisfy the desire of the people who crossed to Japan from south Korea to be reunited with their families, take concrete steps to allow them to stay in Japan, release the people who are illegally held in the Omura Concentration Camp and guarantee their life in Japan.

The letter once again demanded that the Japanese authorities take the following steps:

1. Immediately release the people who are detained for a long period in the Omura Concentration Camp and take a measure to let them live with their families.

2. Give up inhumanitarian immigration control policy, guarantee a secure residence right to Koreans residing in Japan from right after liberation and abolish the orders to exclude them from the objects of expulsion.

Japanese and south Korean residents here enter hunger-strike and collect signatures, demanding the release of south Korean students from Japan, who were recently sentenced by the "Seoul supreme court" to capital punishment and heavy penalties in connection with the bogus "campus spying case."

REUNIFICATION POLICY (1)

I. Reunification: Supreme National Task

"We have seen out one more year and are seeing in a New Year with the cause of national reunification let unaccomplished. It is the greatest and cherished national desire of the entire Korean people to reunify their divided country at the earliest possible date, and this poses itself as an ever more burning demand as years go by and time flows," President Kim Il Sung said in his New Year address for 1977.

Today when the history of Koreans has recorded 32 years of division, the danger of permanent split, not the dawn of reunification, is growing and dark clouds of war, not peace, hang heavily as ever over the country of Morning Calm.

The World Conference for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea held on Feb. 21 and 22 in the Belgian capital of Brussels with the attendance of delegates from more than 50 countries in the five continents, called for more strengthened solidarity with the Korean people for their cause in a unanimously adopted resolution.

The resolution also defined the purpose of the world conference as arousing world public opinion, notably the public opinion of West European and North American countries where people are not well informed of the Korean question, on the tragic situation of the Korean people divided against their will and on the threat to peace growing due to this division.

From this point of view, the People's Korea will give our readers a full account of questions regarding Korea's reunification in serialized articles, starting with this issue. In these articles we will call your attention to: a historical background to Korea's division, nature of the reunification question, principles for and a reasonable way to national reunification, forces available for reunification, and the south Koreans' approach to national integrity.

1. Quintessence and Nature

"The question of our country's reunification is essentially a question of taking back the territory and population wrested by the foreign imperialists and ensuring national sovereignty on a nationwide scale," said President Kim Il Sung in his report at the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea held on Oct. 9, 1975 in Pyongyang.

In the first place, as mentioned above, the quintessence of the reunification question is nothing but to restore the territory wrested by the foreign aggressors and save the fellow-countrymen languishing under their oppression.

Reunification means neither an annexation of one nation by another nor a territorial conflict between different nations. Korea's division originates in the illegal American military rule over south Korea, which replaced the colonial rule by the Japanese imperial army after World War II. Without American military presence, today the Korean Peninsula would be unified. Therefore, total withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea alone can pave the way for restoring the mutilated peninsula to its original state as the country of Morning Calm.

Secondly, the reunification question no doubt concerns full restoration of national sovereignty throughout the peninsula including the southern part. Koreans should be masters of their own country. The destiny of Korea should be determined by the Korean people themselves.

Nevertheless, people in south Korea have been deprived by the U.S. imperialists of their inviolable right to national self-determination. National sovereignty can also be regained only when an end is put to the foreign interference and after the north-south reunification that will follow it.

Therefore, the national reunification of Korea can be characterized in nature as a national liberation struggle.

This means that the Korean people should establish nationwide independence and national sovereignty. Independence is a sacred right of every nation of the world and a lofty hallmark of a sovereign state.

With south Korea under foreign interference, Korea's national independence and sovereignty cannot be secured on a nationwide scale. The southern part is completely dominated by American and Japanese monopoly capital, politically, economically, culturally and militarily.

Reunification alone enables the entire Korean people to win nationwide sovereignty.

This will be accompanied by a rigorous class struggle. Neither reunification will be preceded by a national liberation struggle to expel the foreign invaders from south Korea and a struggle against the domestic reactionary forces represented by the puppet regime, comprador capitalists and landlords. They are in collusion with the outside forces and the opponents to reunification, which will lead to their elimination.

Only the socialist forces in the north and the patriotic and democratic forces in the south can join in the struggle for national reunification.

In a word, the struggle to realize reunification is an anti-imperialist, national liberation struggle.

Korea's reunification is a completely internal affair of the Korean people and is aimed at national and territorial reintegration. Therefore, this must not be achieved by outsiders, who are not qualified to interfere in Korea's internal affair at all. The Korean question should be solved by the Koreans themselves on their own initiative.

Korea is quite different from Germany in the fact that the latter was divided by the Allied Forces for joint control after World War II.

The Korean question has been raised to create conditions favourable for the development of Korea, liberated from the Japanese colonial rule, into a unified independent sovereign country. Consequently, the U.S. troops' landing on the southern part of Korea immediately after Japan's surrender, was originally aimed at disarming the Japanese army stationed in the former colony. This notwithstanding, the United States took advantage of this opportunity to realize her old ambition to use the strategically important peninsula as a bridgehead for American domination over the whole of the Asian Continent.

These facts indisputably prove that U.S. military presence in south Korea will result in a lasting division of Korea. Therefore, the reunification of the divided peninsula is presented as an urgent question to the entire Korean people. The American intervention still remains the root cause of the artificial division of the peaceful homogeneous nation.

Koreas belongs only to the Koreans. When the foreign interference is terminated, the Koreans can realize national reunification on their own.

(To be continued)

Local Reunification-Support Bodies Formed Here

At a time when more and more organisations supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea are making their appearance in different parts of Japan, the Hyogo prefectural people's committee for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea was inaugurated in Hyogo prefecture on March 1.

The inauguration of the Hyogo prefectural people's committee was declared at the meeting of people in Hyogo prefecture supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea held in Kobe in commemoration of the first anniversary of the March 1 declaration for democracy and national salvation.

Those who joined up the committee at the prefectural people's committee, the people of broad strata in Hyogo prefecture supporting the reunification of Korea will wage more powerful solidarity movement, irrespective of political parties and groupings, ideas and beliefs, they declared.

They expressed their determination to build up the prefectural people's committee into a big active organisation.

The meeting adopted an appeal clarifying the policy and programme of action of the Hyogo prefectural people's committee for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and resolutions.

Prior to the inauguration of the Hyogo committee, the Aomori prefectural solidarity committee and the Chiba prefectural federation were inaugurated in support of Korea's independent and peaceful reunification on Feb. 25 and 26, respectively.

As national organizations, the committee for supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and the society to support the reunification of the Korean nation were already formed separately in this country.

The supra-partisan Dietmen league for promoting Japan-Korea friendship called its third general meeting in Tokyo on March 2. Present there were 91 Japanese Dietmen from ruling and opposition parties.

The supra-partisan Dietmen league called for an active effort to create an international atmosphere favourable for Korea's national reintegration and a change in Japan's Korean policy. Also at the meeting a stress was laid upon a bid for the establishment of the DPRK-Japan diplomatic relation.

State Dept.: No Human Rights in S. Korea

It admits of no doubt that human rights in south Korea is seriously violated, a U.S. State Department source said.

This was referred to in a U.S. State Department report on human rights problems in 82 countries made public on March 12 by the Senate Foreign Relations Sub-committee.

On the same day, the report was sent to the countries concerned including south Korea, the source added.

The State Department investigated the actual conditions of human rights problems in 82 countries including south Korea and the Philippines to present a report as reference material to Congress deliberating on military aid to those countries.

The report said that all the citizens in south Korea are under police surveillance, with the movements for revisions in the constitution prohibited and students denied freedom of political activities under "emergency decree No. 9."

It also decided that dissidents were actually tortured in south Korea.

The fact that the State Department sent this report to the south Korean "regime" may be taken as an indication of its warning that unless the south Korean "regime" discontinued its suppression of human rights, it might terminate military aid.

On March 10, prior to its publication, Richard C. Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, told the House International Relations Sub-committee on human rights violations in south Korea.

With the start of the Carter administration, relations cooled between Seoul and Washington over Pak Jung Hi's suppression of human rights.

About the same time, it was disclosed that the Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA) and other Korean agents had been conducting large-scale influence buying operations among U.S. Congressmen.

On March 9, Carter emphasized U.S. concern over human rights in south Korea in a talk with south Korean "foreign minister" Pak Tong Jin held in the White House.

With increased concern of the American government over the human rights problems in south Korea it is expected, it may give some pressures to the south Korean "regime" regarding its suppression of human rights.

US Pullout Prerequisite to Korea's Reunification

Speeches at World Conf. on Korea

The World Conference for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was held in the Belgian capital of Brussels on Feb. 21 and 22. At the conference attendants from various countries and organizations made speeches on the Korean question. Follow the gists of some of the speeches at the conference.

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Levant Professor of Political Science of Canada

He stressed that the dissolution of the "UN Command" and the withdrawal of the U.N. troops and the realisation of democracy in south Korea are the prerequisite to a genuine independence and the peaceful reunification of Korea.

In the past period the Canadian Government has zealously supported the United States' Korean policy. Still now the Canadian Government conspires with the United States over the Korean question.

This entirely runs counter to the will of the Canadian people.

The realisation of the peaceful reunification of Korea is of great importance, because it will mark a step forward in the struggle for human dignity and the liberation of the oppressed peoples of the world and a heavy blow to the countries harbouring expansionist desire.

Pak Jung Hi talks about "unification." But by "unification" he means to leave the whole territory of Korea to the Americans and the Japanese.

Deidre Griswold, Member of U.S.-Out-of Korea Committee of Youth against War and Facism in United States

She said: We Americans demand the withdrawal of all the U.S. troops and weapons from south Korea, the conclusion of a peace agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States and an end to the United States' "aid" to the Pak "regime."

Today in the United States there is a growing movement of the people actively engaged in the struggle to end the long and cruel U.S. occupation and division of Korea.

It is not long ago that such movement was a target of war hysteria and violent "anti-communism" in the United States. But, the public opinion effectively answered this.

The United States attempted to dominate Asia by means of aggressive war.

But, this U.S. ambition was frustrated by the heroic resistance of the Korean people.

The United States partitioned the Korean nation into the north and south and covered the land of south with its troops and weapons.

In the south the enormous sums of military and economic "aid" have kept the power of the puppet government.

But the time has changed. More American people are now awakened.

The American people stand against the U.S. occupation of south Korea.

They are against the new war provocation move of the United States in Korea.

We will unfold a more vigorous mass movement.

Jose Antonio, Mozambican Delegate

The delegate said: The UN resolution which calls for forcing all the foreign forces to withdraw from Korea immediately and unconditionally and letting the Korean people solve the Korean problem by themselves must be carried out.

The United Nations General Assembly, paying attention to the fact that reunification has not yet been achieved and division remains a big problem, called for the disbandment of the "UN Command" and the withdrawal of all foreign forces present in south Korea under the UN flag.

The situation created by the U.S. aggression forces still jeopardizes peace in Korea and the rest of the world.

This peace can be achieved only when the U.S. aggression forces cease their aggression and interference going against the desire of the Korean people.

The People's Republic of Mozambique has always maintained her stand that all foreign troops must pull out of the soil of Korea at once for the removal of the man-made barrier bisecting the nation of a single country into two parts.

We reaffirm our total and unconditional support to the Korean people's struggle for the reunification of the country and most bitterly denounce the imperialists' provocations and machinations breeding a dangerous situation in Korea and menacing not only the Korean people but world peace and security as well.

Tachiki Hiroshi, Chairman of Foreign Policy Committee of Japan Communist Party and Member of House of Councillors

All the Korean people want to put a full stop to the division and realize the territorial reunification of their homeland, riding over the differences in idea and creed between the north and the south.

It is only the Korean people who are entitled to take a decision on Korea's destiny. In this respect their demand for the country's reunification is inalienable and just.

Why has the Korean people's demand not been met? This is because the U.S. troops over 40,000 men continue to be present in south Korea and help the "regime" away the black collusion between Japan and south Korea against military integration among the U.S.A., Japan and south Korea. We demand the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Korea and from Japan and from all Asia.

peaceful reunification of Korea.

We the Japan Communist Party have given top priority to the struggle for the abrogation of the "Japan-U.S. security treaty," for it is the very basis for the U.S.-Japan-south Korea military integration to fix the division and obstruct reunification of Korea.

We will further strengthen our solidarity with the Korean nation in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and for freedom and democracy.

We will make more efforts in our struggle to prevent away the black collusion between Japan and south Korea against military integration among the U.S.A., Japan and south Korea. We demand the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from Korea and from Japan and from all Asia.

Nabi Belkacem, Member of Leadership of National Liberation Front of Algeria

He reaffirmed the full support of the Algerian people to the just cause of the Korean people.

The support to the peoples fighting for a cause of justice is one of the important principles of the Algerian revolution.

It is our invariable stand to manifest solidarity of our people with the Korean people now.

The visit of President Boumedienne to Korea and the visit of President Kim Il Sung to Algeria were tokens of a concrete guarantee for the common struggle of our two peoples.

We consider that the four-point national salvation proposal put forth by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 25, 1977, is a realistic one for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

We demand the withdrawal of foreign troops from south Korea and the removal of the U.S. military bases from south Korea.

Khader N., Representative of Palestine Liberation Organization

The Palestine Liberation Organisation, the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, entrusted me to tell you that it understands the legitimate desire of the Korean people to build one Korea, democratic, progressive and independent, and effectively and practically supports the desire.

Our solidarity with the Korean people is firm.

Together with the Korean people, we are waging a common struggle against the common enemy to attain the same goal of progress and democracy, reunification and independence.

Therefore, I think it superfluous to tell you how highly we appreciate the continued, effective and invariable support we received and are still receiving from our comrades of Korea in domains.

It is a matter of fact, the Zionist "state" and the south Korean puppet regime were rigged up by the imperialist reactionary forces and are still maintained and protected by them.

The struggle of the Korean people for the reunification of the country and the struggle of the Palestinian people for liberation should become the joint struggle of all the progressive forces of the world.

Mattmann Peter, Member of Central Committee of Swiss Progressive Organizations

He declared: "It is a task of the progressive forces in the West to stand behind the movement supporting Korea's reunification and wage a more active and extensive movement for solidarity with it."

The U.S. imperialists are coming out with the "two Koreas" policy and trying to maintain tension between the north and the south.

We believe that the reunification of Korea should be realised in the interests of the Korean people.

The heroic struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples and the activities of the non-aligned countries are a blow to the position of the imperialists.

The realisation of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea would be a great victory in the struggle against world imperialism.

In cooperation with other progressive forces, we will strive to inform the Swiss people of the Korean situation and make the Swiss Government adopt a policy conforming to the interests of the Korean people.

At this conference, I make it clear once again that we fully support the propositions for national reunification put forward by the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Khawaja Abdur Rasheed, Member of Provincial Committee of Pakistan People's Party

He declared: "We in Pakistan categorically reject the idea of 'danger from the north'."

The people of Pakistan profoundly understand the desire of the Korean people to cast off this patent manifestation of imperialism which is preventing the reunification of their motherland.

We have no doubt that under the inspiring and dedicated leadership of their brilliant leader President Kim Il Sung, the heroic and strong Korean people, who have already achieved so much in every field of national development, will also meet with success in achieving the reunification of their country.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Chairman of the Pakistan People's Party, the people of Pakistan firmly reject the concept of "two Koreas" and recognise that such proposals are only advanced to thwart the reunification of the Korean people.

Accordingly Pakistan has consistently refused to accept the "simultaneous entry of two Koreas in the United Nations."

The people of Pakistan have joined in with all the progressive peoples in calling for the dismantling of the "United Nations Command" in south Korea, and the replacement of the armistice agreement by a peace agreement that would provide the basis for the peaceful and independent reunification of Korea.

Mohammed El Hassan Shamo, Chairman of Society for Study of Socialism of Socialist Union of Sudan

The Sudan and its revolutionary political organisation, the Socialist Union of the Sudan, have utilized every forum available in regional and international organizations and gatherings to reaffirm their strong support for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The reunification of Korea is not the concern of the brave Korean people alone but should be the worry of all peace-loving forces in the world.

The gloomy and potentially eruptive state of affairs in Northeast Asia constitutes a danger to peace and international justice.

This tension has resulted from the continued help and assistance being provided by the United States and other imperialist forces to the reactionary "regime" in Seoul in the form of military build-up and political and economic domination.

The firm support of the Sudan to the peaceful reunification of Korea springs from our earnest pursuit to establish a new code of international relations based on national dignity and self-determination.

We stand firmly in supporting the three principles of national reunification and the four-point proposal advanced by the political parties and public organisations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in January, 1977.

We fully support the proposal before the conference for a formation of an international liaison committee to elicit the support and cooperation of the peaceloving states and organisations to the cause of reunification of Korea.

We assure you that our commitment to the cause and our pursuit of the revolutionary principles will never weaken.

We denounce and disdain the imperialist attempts to hamper and impede the progressive march of the Korean people.

Rev. Christie Rosa, Deputy General Secretary of Christian Peace Conference

He said: "I express full support and firm solidarity with the Korean Christians and people in their just cause of achieving Korea's peace and the peaceful reunification of the country."

The steps that the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has so far taken in its unabated interests to reunify the motherland have received the full support of the Christian Peace Conference of the World.

The leadership of the Christian Peace Conference issued a declaration titled "Korea Must Be Reunified" in December, 1976.

The declaration said:

It considers it a basic guarantee for peace and security in the world as well as in Asia to prevent a new war and achieve a lasting peace in Korea and achieve an independent, peaceful reunification of the country in accordance with the unanimous desire of the entire Korean people.

It maintains that the United States of America should dissolve the "UN Command," withdraw from south Korea all its troops and arms including nuclear weapons in accordance with the resolution on the Korean question adopted at the 30th Session of the UN General Assembly and should forthwith accept the proposal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement.

It holds that the south Korean authorities should stop suppressing the just struggle of the south Korean religious men and patriotic people for the social democratization and the country's peaceful reunification, should release unconditionally all religious men and patriotic people in jail.

We express determined solidarity with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for carrying out the manifold national and international tasks in the work for peace with justice.

Guha R., Vice-President of World Federation of Democratic Youth

The World Federation of Democratic Youth holds that the continued military provocations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must be terminated at once, nuclear weapons and other mass destruction weapons and all the U.S. troops be withdrawn from south Korea and foreign military bases there be dismantled.

The World Federation of Democratic Youth strongly denounces the Pak Jung Hi clique's intensified repression of the democratic forces in south Korea, demands the immediate release of all the democratic figures in jail and expresses solidarity with the struggle of the south Korean youth and people against the dictatorial "regime" and for freedom, democracy and national reunification.

We also express our full support and firm solidarity for the Korean people and youth in their just struggle to force the foreign troops out of south Korea and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country in accordance with the three principles and five-point policy of national reunification advanced by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Reunification of Korea should be achieved by the Korean people themselves without any outside interence by means of convening a great national congress extensively reflecting the will of the whole nation.

Sako B, Chairman of Malian Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity

The Pak Jung Hi clique supported by the U.S. Government are trying to keep Korea divided permanently. This is an act defending the interests of imperialism and betraying those of the Korean people. We Malian people are firmly convinced that the Pak Jung Hi clique will meet the same end as that of the Lon Nol clique of Cambodia and the Thieu clique of south Vietnam.

I demand the withdrawal of the "UN forces" occupying south Korea at present. We support the three principles and five-point policy of national reunification put forward by Comrade Kim Il Sung who struggled against the Japanese imperialist colonial rulers to win back the independence of Korea.

Convinced that the peaceful reunification of Korea will be realised without delay under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, I wish the conference big success and hope that after the conference each delegate will work to call forth a world-wide echo to all that was adopted by us at this conference. I would like to repeat that each delegate should work for the peaceful reunification of Korea which is a pressing question of the world. (KCNA)

Supplementary Reports

"International Context, Danger Of War, Withdrawal of the U.S. Troops and Nuclear Armament"

Andre Aubry, Communist Senator of France

Korea remains a zone of severe tension, a fire brand, a real powder magazine.

The United States of America keeps in the south of the 38th parallel an armed force of over 42,000 soldiers, supported by the vast logistic apparatus built by the defence department in Guam as well as in the Japanese Archipelago, around Okinawa settings.

"The American defence information centre" has acknowledged that a considerable stock of nuclear weapons and of mass destruction means is stored in south Korea, including 192 atomic bombs flown by Phantom F, 4 bombers, 12 atomic caps for "sergeant" earth-sky missiles, etc.

At the same time, the U.S.A. keeps providing Seoul army with important military equipment. These deliveries amounted, for the short period from June 1975 to May 1976, to 633 million dollars, related to bring up to date an army of 700,000 soldiers.

The south Korean army "training" is intensive and brutal. "Joint drills" of the south Korean, U.S. and Japanese troops are extremely frequent.

Concentration of weapons and of considerable troops (400,000 men on a war footing 24 hours a day are set out along the Demarcation Line) permanent over military training, "anti-communist" hysteria that is inculcated, all these factors may, at any time and in spite of the existence of armistice commission, throw out sparks that could set the whole thing ablaze.

The menace of war is real, and is the more so big as nuclear weapons are stored and as Seoul dictatorship does not conceal its claim for possessing nuclear armaments.

One cannot but recall the "declarations" of Schlesinger and Rumsfeld, America defence spokesmen on June 20, 1975 and May 27, 1976, who deliberately contemplated the possibility of using atomic weapons in case of a conflict in Korea.

The American leaders legitimate the presence of their troops and the help they give to the Seoul "regime" by asserting that Korea is part of the U.S.A. "advanced defence line" and by alleging a "menace of aggression from the north."

Who can maintain that the U.S.A. could be attacked by the people of Korea, who is numerically, militarily and technologically smaller, who lives at thousand kilometers from the force balance?

The opposite hypotheses could be more exact, for the presence of American troops keeps up a dangerous source of tension from which a nuclear war could emerge.

The recent proposal for the convocation of a north-south political consultative conference to discuss the problems to solve on the basis of these principles (a proposal included in the call issued by the important conference of political parties and public organisations held in Pyongyang on January 25, 1977), this recent proposal represents a new initiative of far-reaching effect in the prospect of the quick reunification of an independent and pacific Korea.

Consequently, the presence of American troops in south Korea appears as a prime cause for tension in that part of the world. Whether one chooses or not, it stands in the way of pacific and independent reunification of Korea. Voluntarily or not, it allows the repression led in the south against patriots and democrats, a repression which, among others, strikes many religious believers. Here are numerous reasons to ask for the implementation of the resolution passed at the 30th Session of the General Assembly of the UN which deals with the dissolution of the "United Nations headquarters in south Korea," the withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea and the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace agreement.

"Historic Background of Division and Propositions For Reunification"

Karen Gellen, Foreign News Editor of the U.S. Paper "Guardian" and Delegate of Guardian Committee in Support of Korean Reunification

Since 1945, U.S. imperialism has been the principal cause of Korea's national division; the principal cause of the war danger that exists today; the principal cause of the wretched misery that has been imposed on the masses of people in south Korea by a succession of fascist, puppet leaders manipulated by strings that extend half-way around the world to Washington.

During this time, the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the leadership of President Kim Il Sung and the Workers' Party, have transformed the northern half of Korea into a prosperous and advanced socialist society.

Now hidden behind its ill-gotten UN "credentials," U.S. imperialism set about to forever secure southern Korea as Washington's domain, perpetuating the "temporary" division of 1945 into what it hoped would become a historic split into "two Koreas."

While Washington and its political dependants in Tokyo began to carve up south Korea into economic fiefdoms for them to plunder under the dictatorial rule of Pak Jung Hi, a former officer in the Japanese "imperial army" who joined the colonialists in subjugating Korea.

He is today a monarch on a shaky "throne" protected from the wrath of the people only by his masters in Washington and their armies, weapons and money.

He is thoroughly despised by all but the comprador class.

The DPRK has put forward one reasonable proposal after another for the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea.

And time after time the Pak "regime," under the control of the U.S. Government, has rejected or sabotaged each proposal.

As one method of creating conditions that would lead toward reunification, the DPRK has repeatedly expressed its willingness to convert the Korean Armistice Agreement with the U.S. into a peace agreement on the condition that the U.S. withdraw its armed forces. The U.S. has yet to even reply to such a proposal.

In place of answering the DPRK's call for a peace agreement between Pyongyang and Washington the U.S. has instructed Pak Jung Hi to offer the DPRK a so-called "non-aggression treaty," which the DPRK has scorned for good reason. Such a "treaty" would constitute recognition of the existence of "two Koreas."

The DPRK's most recent move toward reunification was a "Letter to Political Parties, Public Organisations and People of All Strata in South Korea and Compatriots Overseas" adopted at a "Joint Meeting of Political Parties and Public Organisations" in Pyongyang January 25, 1976.

The letter proposed the four-point proposal.

The non-aligned countries are now strongly behind the DPRK. And the trend within the United Nations now definitely leans toward the Pyongyang Government.

Much work remains to be done internationally to create an overwhelming worldwide mandate against imperialism and its puppets and for the DPRK's reunification proposal.

It is especially important for all progressive and democratic forces in the capitalist countries to increase their solidarity with the DPRK and with the demand for withdrawal of U.S. troops and armaments from south Korea for the reunification of all Korea.

This is particularly important in my own country, the United States—over the last several years the movement in favour of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from south Korea and the reunification of Korea has grown stronger.

"Violation of Human Rights in South Korea"

Basso, Member of Senate of Italy and Chairman of International Organisation for Rights and Liberation of People

Noting that the truculent "regime" of south Korea has fabricated all brands of evil laws and systematically suppressed opposition parties and arrested people on groundless charges and tortured and murdered them, to prop up itself, a typical dependent "regime," he said:

It is necessary, he emphasized, to mention how other evil laws have been cooked up and enforced after the retrogressive revision of the "constitution" in 1962.

In the first half of 1963 dictator "president" manufactured a large number of "laws."

These "laws" run counter to international law and serve to unconditionally persecute people demanding democracy.

All the opposition parties are subject to restriction in their activities by persecution and threat.

The south Korean "laws" include a provision on the establishment of a "military tribunal," which suggests that most brutal, anti-popular apparatus has been brought into shape.

Article one of "emergency decree No. 1" stipulates that no one shall deny, oppose, distort or slander the "constitution."

And its second article bans demand, initiation, proposal or petition for an amendment or abrogation of the "constitution."

Article four bans propaganda and agitation of activities prohibited in the afore-said articles.

Then it bans any act provoking the "president," which reveals the intention of the tyrant to defend all the criminal acts of his own by justifying his arbitrary acts.

Reading the provisions of the "emergency decrees," one is struck by the manifestation of incredibly ridiculous and unlimited arbitrariness.

The "amendment to the criminal law" was rammed through the "national assembly" in a twinkle on March 19, 1975.

He "president" is empowered to change chiefs of the groupings and organisations falling out of favour with him and to scrap even "laws" which were passed at the "national assembly" and adopt new ones.

He is also empowered to nullify any administrative powers and change them.

Thus the elementary political and citizen's rights are violated.

The absolute powers of the supreme dictator were further strengthened with the recent increase of the authority of the "military tribunal."

A report of investigation written by the Amnesty International long ago laid bare the systematic and continued violation of human rights by the Seoul "regime" and it points to murder and tortures of opposition figures.

This condemnation remains fully valid today. Because, as we have already studied, the suppressive apparatus adopted in 1974 has been reinforced by "emergency decree No. 9."

Therefore, I declare on the basis of sufficient materials about the grave crimes committed in the recent years:

Holding that such acts are a violation of article 19 on the human rights of the international convention and its article 9 on the freedom of speech and expression, article 10 of the general declaration on the rights of each individual entitled to an independent and fair trial, article 15 of the international convention on the return of rights in accordance with the criminal procedure code, article 5 of the general declaration and article 7 of the international convention on the ban on cruel and inhuman treatment, I call for a more vehement international condemnation of the violation of human rights in south Korea as the Amnesty International said in its conclusion in 1974. (KCNA)

What Does Carter Think of?

Carter, the U.S. President made public the plan for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea and expressed his concern on the crackdown on human rights in south Korea on March 9 when he had talks with Pak Dong Jin, "foreign minister" of south Korea, during his stay in Washington.

Meanwhile, the "ninth ROK-Japan non-government joint economic committee" was held on March 10 to 12 in Seoul, discussing a sizable economic aid of the Japanese monopolies to the Seoul "regime."

The two events made it clear that the U.S. was forced to retreat on his policy towards Korea and that Japan and south Korea made desperate efforts to close their ranks in face of the U.S.'s changing commitment.

Carter plans to pull out the U.S. ground forces of south Korea in order to reduce the military expenditure of the decaying U.S. economic power as their presence there is denounced by the people the world over including the U.S. people who have doubt about their government policy in Vietnam War.

The world public forced Carter to condemn the Pak Jung Hi junta for its harsh suppression of the south Korean people. Carter also is concerned that anti-Pak Jung Hi "government" movement develops into an anti-U.S. one.

Diplomacy Based on "Economic Development", Ideological Attack

The days have gone never to return when the U.S., once a gendarme of the world, were able to confront socialist countries by force and suppressed national liberation struggle. The myth of "mighty America" was smashed to pieces by the Korean people 20 years ago in the Korean War. The Carter Administration was formed after the U.S. suffered debacle in Vietnam War.

The diplomatic policy of the Carter government is reported designed to maintain a "political stability" in the world and to concentrate power on places where the U.S. has vital interests.

West European countries, particularly West Germany, and Japan are required to play an increased role in promoting the global policy of the U.S.

To be concrete, the U.S. pays attention to Europe, Middle and East and Japan with which it has a deep connection, while paralyzing the people's fighting spirit in other countries through an intensified ideological attack and capital investments and economic aid. The "detente" policy is followed with regard to the socialist countries while an ideological attack being taken on the pretext of denouncing the crackdown on human rights.

Denunciation of Pak, Detente to DPRK

Carter asks Japan to give more military and economic aid to South Korea for the subrogation of the U.S. so that the south Korean people may feel grateful for "economic development."

The trouble is that the south Korean people are waging more vigorous struggles against the barbarous Pak Jung Hi junta. It not only makes it possible to give a rise to anti-U.S. movement in south Korea but also give the world public doubts about Carter's "moral diplomacy." It may also alienate the U.S. supporters for the Carter Administration and enervate the ideological attack on socialist countries.

The U.S. has to decide whether it has Pak Jung Hi easen the suppression of the people or fires the present Seoul "regime."

Carter told on March 9 at the press conference that he decided to lift the ban on Americans making a trip to Vietnam, Cuba, Cambodia and the DPRK.

Carter Plans "Two Koreas"

In spite of such a series of diplomatic policy, Carter government cannot be believed to have a high moral sense and to treasure human rights.

Frankly speaking, the diplomatic policy followed by the U.S. is nothing but a step to maintain status quo, that is, not to decrease its sphere of influence over the world.

Carter and Pak Dong Jin had talks on March 9 in the White House.

On the Korean Peninsula, the U.S. has an intention to perpetuate national split in utter disregard of the Korean national aspiration after the reunification of the country and to retain its presence in south Korea. The policy of the Carter Administration toward Korea is aimed at realizing "two Koreas."

If Carter has really a high moral sense, the Korean question must be left to the Koreans themselves after the all-out withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea. After that, the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea will be accomplished, riding over differences of ideology and system between north and south. This surely brings a true political stability to the North East Asia.

What Is Purpose of "9th 'ROK'-Japan Non-Gov't Joint Economic Committee"

The "ninth ROK-Japan non-government joint economic committee" was held on March 10 to 12 in Seoul, to promote the militarization of the south Korean economy.

Present there were, from the south Korean side, the secretary-general of "ROK" economic planning department, the president of the "ROK" trading association, the chairman of the "ROK" chamber of commerce and industry and other political and economic leaders.

Attending the meeting from the Japanese side were 23 Japanese including the President of Yamaichi Securities.

A "joint statement" was issued on March 12, main contents of which can be summed up as follows: 1. For Japan to give active economic and technical aid to the "fourth five-year plan" of the Pak Jung Hi junta; 2. To strengthen mutual cooperation in developing the markets in the 3rd world countries including the Middle East; 3. To cooperate in settling economic problems including the "ROK-Japan joint continental shelf development project."

The Japanese side is said to have agreed to the south Korean proposal to establish "a committee for long-term economic cooperation plans."

The "fourth five-year plan" is aimed at developing "heavy and chemical industries", including iron and steel, machine-building, electronics and petrochemicals which will not make a great contribution to the growth of the south Korean economy. That is why the Seoul is planning to produce weapons on its own.

The south Korean "regime" plans to induct foreign capital amounting to 10,000 million dollars, out of 40,000 million dollars needed for the implementation of this "plan".

Loans amounting to 9,600 million dollars are said to have been promised —1,850 million dollars from Japan, 2,250 million dollars from the U.S., 2,250 million dollars from European countries and 2,300 million dollars from the World Bank.

As a matter of fact, this "plan" requires a loan of 13 billion dollars, not 10 billion dollars. The remaining 3 billion dollar loan is scheduled to be extended by Japan.

The Pak Jung Hi junta asked Japan for a commercial loan of 425 million dollars for this year.

Uemura Kogoro, president of the "Japan-ROK economic association," said last May that Japan would offer 4 billion dollars in five years to south Korea. Nakayama Taichi, President of "Ube Mining Industries" and chief of the "association for the study of the ROK economy" commented that Japan had to meet the demand of south Korea for "economic aid of 1.8 billion dollars in five years." It is as clear as daylight that more Japanese capital than expected will invade south Korea under the pretext of "capital cooperation."

The "ninth ROK-Japan non-government joint economic committee" is the aggressive meeting aimed at shoring up the Pak Jung Hi junta in economic and military affairs. Japanese monopolies are trying for a long time to make economic inroads into south Korea through "commercial loans" and "direct investments."

The Japanese monopolies plan to extend an increased aid to the Pak Jung Hi junta on the pretext of "economic cooperation. This photo shows Japan-dominated Pohang Iron and Steel Works.

Over 20,000 S. Korean Fetal Kidneys Sold to U.S.; JAL Involved

The Asahi Evening News on March 9 disclosed the fact that Seoul sold off over 20,000 fetal kidneys to the U.S. and the Japan Air Lines was involved in this scandal.

It had been learned in Washington that an American company purchased over 4,000 human kidneys taken from the embryos resulting from abortions in south Korea per year and that the Japan Air Lines transported these kidneys over six years until July, 1976.

It was also learned that some of the kidneys were used for research on epidemic bleeding fever, which is endemic in south Korea, at the Army biological weapons research base at Fort Detrick in Maryland.

Because of the fear of criticism from human rights groups, the fact that the south Korean government had given permission for the export and air freighting of so many kidneys was kept a tight secret in the United States.

A U.S. Army medical research unit formerly stationed in Japan carried out the research on epidemic bleeding fever.

Flow Laboratories, Inc. of Rockville, Maryland, purchased some of the kidneys. The company is a subsidiary of the General Research Co. in Virginia, which undertakes military research and analysis under contract to the Defense Department and the Army.

Although Flow Laboratories refuses to divulge any details, Mr. Hall, President of General Research has admitted to the purchase of the kidneys. Although he refused to give any concrete figures, he did not deny that the number was over 2,000 pairs (4,000 kidneys) a year. He said that export permission had been obtained from the south Korean government.

Flow Laboratories sold the kidneys in 10 cc bottles to medical research laboratories under the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and also to the Army's Walter Reed Hospital, university research institutes and Army biological weapons research bases.

It is reported that Flow Laboratories paid $25 for the kidneys of each embryo, and it is believed there must have been a full-scale system by which abortionists in south Korea supplied the kidneys in a "line operation."

The kidneys were packed into air parcels weighing about four kilograms and airshipped via Tokyo, Osaka and Anchorage to the United State where they were transferred to American planes for shipment to Maryland.

Ever since former President Richard Nixon stated in 1969 that the United States would not make offensive biological and chemical weapons, the U.S. Army has stressed that it is undertaking research only into defensive weapons.

The shipment of these human kidneys from embryos was suspended in July, 1976, after six years, during which time it is estimated that about 12,000 pairs were shipped. Flow Laboratories said that the south Korean government suddenly canceled export permission and that no explanation was given for the cancellation.

Meanwhile, in Tokyo, JAL admitted that it had transported the human kidneys but pointed out that everything had been in order as far as procedure was concerned. It said that the contents of air cargo were not checked and that it was the duty of airlines to handle all types of cargo so long as they did not endanger navigation.

The Japan Socialist Party (JSP), which had a team to the United States check on the matter, says it will question the Government and JAL in the Upper House Budget Committee in the latter part of this month.

S. Korean Babies Illegally Adopted

Some 60 south Korean babies have been illegally adopted by U.S. military personnel in Okinawa through a secret adoption service run by a south Korean lawyer, a Japanese social welfare institute reports.

The institute in Ginowan, Okinawa-ken, says the babies, five months to five years old, were brought to Okinawa for adoption between last September and February.

The disclosure followed complaints by the adoptive parents who failed to receive U.S. immigration authorities' permission to take their new children back to the U.S., on grounds they had not met some legal requirements for adoption.

In most cases, officials said, the adoptive parents failed to obtain formal consent for adoption from the true mother and receive the child personally from her, as required by U.S. law.

While legal U.S. adoption procedures normally take about a year, the procedures for the Korean babies took only three months, officials said.

Several of the adoptive parents reportedly already hope to cancel the adoption arrangements, feeling little affection for the adopted babies.

Reunification Forum (8)

Anti-Communism Originates in Japan's Rule over Korea

(Continued from the previous issue)

When the KCIA described him as a "communist", Kim Ji Ha, a national poet and patriot of resistance, said that the charge was so foolish as to say that there is "hot ice" on earth. To people with common sense, Christianism is quite different from communism. The Pak Jung Hi junta, however, leaves no stones untturned to find excuses to sentence to death Kim Ji Ha, a dyed-in-the-wool Christian, on groundless charges of being a communist.

Communist-Nationalist Collaboration

A "mutual defence treaty" was concluded against the Soviet Union among the three countries of Germany, Italy and Japan, during World War I. The allied countries including the U.S. and Britain, in alliance with the Soviet Union, fought against Germany, Italy and Japan. Kuomintang-Communist collaboration was realized in order to defend China from the invasion by the Japanese imperialists.

In spite of these historical events, the leaders of the U.S. and Britain were not denounced pro-communist governments, nor Chiang Kai-shek branded as a sympathizer of communism.

But this is allowed in south Korea. There is something about the anti-"communist" policy of south Korea that distinguishes it from that in other countries. It is the aggressive anti-communist policy which refuses the very existence of communism, irrespective of the contents of communism. In south Korea successive administrations have conducted propaganda to the effect that all people are anti-communists and every nationalist is against communism. They equate anti-dictatorship with pro-communism, and thus regarding people against the present "regime" as communists.

Korean history makes it clear that true nationalists have taken a pro-communist standpoint. The murderous suppression of the March 1, 1919 independence movement by the Japanese imperialists taught the Korean people the importance of unity and cohesion in a national salvation struggle.

The new cadre committee was formed in the 1920s, a committee which reflected the will of the people who wanted the nationalists and communists to unite themselves under the banner of national independence. After the 1930s, quite a few religionists and nationalists fought against the Japanese imperialists at home and in Manchuria, in cooperation with the communists.

Right after the August 15 Liberation, the communists exercised a great political influence in south Korea and a large number of nationalists were anxious to be on good terms with the communists. Significantly, the dyed-in-the-wool nationalists Kim Gu and Kim Gyu Sik went to Pyongyang across the 38th Parallel to attend a north-south political conference. After that, they fought against the establishment of a "separate south Korean regime."

The south Korean people don't yet completely accept anti-communism even under a dictatorial system. Kim Dae Jung polled 46 per cent of the votes cast in the south Korean presidential election because he put up a slogan for independent, peaceful reunification of the country. The independent, peaceful reunification of the country cannot be realized without cooperation with the communists.

Era of Japanese Imperialists

In pursuing its anti-communist policy, south Korea follows examples in foreign countries. This is another feature of it.

Communist ideas began to be popular in the early 1920s in Korea. In order to implant fear for communism in the minds of people, the Japanese imperialists conducted vicious anti-communist propaganda among the Korean people, saying that the communists shared property and wives with each other. In this way, they led people to misunderstand communism or to regard communism *itself as a crime.*

The Japanese imperialists were plotting to destroy the national unity of the Korean people and to cause splits and division in the national salvation struggle through their vicious anti-communist policy.

Pak Jung Hi, a faithful servant to the Japanese imperialists, follows the example of anti-communist policy used by the Japanese imperialists during their colonial rule over Korea. The Pak Jung Hi junta promotes national split and division by stepping up its anti-communist policy and cracking down across the 38th Parallel. Whoever opposes the Pak Jung Hi "regime" is branded as a pro-communist element or communist sympathizer, even if he is a priest or stubborn anti-communist.

The July 4 north-south joint statement stresses that great national unity must be realized, irrespective of differences of ideas and systems between north and south. The statement must be said to make much account of the spirit of achieving the great national cause in the unity of nationalists and communists, the principle of which was adhered to during the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule over Korea. (To be continued)

Japan-ROK Corruption

(1) *Suspicions Increase from Statements*

Presented here are excerpts from "Japan-ROK Corruption" carried in the March 12, 14, 15 issues of the English daily newspaper Asahi Evening News. The article is divided into three parts. The first part follows:

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In February last year, when Vice-chairman Carl A. Kotchian of Lockheed Aircraft Corporation disclosed such names as "Kodama" and "Osano" in his testimony before U.S. Congress, a Japanese Diet member belonging to the Liberal-Democratic Party described the impact produced by the revelation on Japan's political world as follows: "We have been hit by a missile with a nuclear warhead launched from the United States."

The same was true with the "suspicions" about Japan-ROK corruption. A missile that may blow up the LDP has come flying from the U.S. In both cases, there were some "presaging" developments. Precursors of the Lockheed scandal emerged in the summer of 1975. Regarding the "Japan-ROK" corruption Donald I. Ranard, former director for Korean Affairs at the U.S. State Department, made a serious testimony in March last year, a foreboding of what was to come later.

The matter "exploded" a year later, when important ROK exiles, including Lee Jae Hyon, former public information chief at the south Korean embassy in Washington, and Kim Hyong Uk, former KCIA director, made important statements this year. We would like to put together their statements, which correspond to the Kotchian testimony in the Lockheed Affair, in order to grasp an outline of "suspicions" about Japan-ROK corruption.

Nine Culprits

Was the abduction of Kim Dae Jung an act of KCIA?

Ranard: Of course, it was. U.S. Government information organs confirmed it and the Japanese Government also confirmed it with police information. (Jan. 19 issue of the Asahi Shimbun, etc.)

The abduction in broad daylight of Kim Dae Jung, which took place in Tokyo on Aug. 8, 1973, came into the limelight again in a report on an interview between Hashimoto Atsushi, a Communist Party member of the House of Councillors, who was visiting the U.S. at the time, and Ranard. The main point of the interview was that Ranard, an American official in charge of Korean affairs at the time, definitely supported the theory, but which the south Korean Government still does not officially recognize, that the abduction was an act of KCIA and, moreover, reported that the Japanese Government itself admitted it.

On this point, let us draw upon some quotations from the minutes of a secret hearing of the U.S. House Subcommittee on International Organization (of which Donald Fraser was chairman) on Mar. 25 last year, which may be described as the starting point of the whole affair.

Ranard: (After citing specific examples of harassments by KCIA against Kim Dae Jung while he was in the U.S.) For him the question was whether to live in Japan or in the U.S.... I think he went to Japan without making up his mind. It was finally under these circumstances that he was kidnaped.

Fraser: When did you know that he had been kidnaped?

Ranard: He was kidnaped on Aug. 8 (1973). At the time I was at the U.S. Embassy to the United Nations in New York and was in conference with British, Australian and Japanese ambassadors and counselor.

Fraser: When you heard about the affair, you seem to have judged that the south Korean Government was involved.

Ranard: At the time we did not definitely decide that was so, but later, we reached a conclusion to the effect in the light of a series of acts taken by KCIA against Kim since 1971. (This was the year when Kim Dae Jung went to the U.S. after being defeated by a small margin of votes in the ROK presidential election.)

A Kyodo News Service report from Washington on Feb. 14 said that a Korean journalist, Miss Mun Myong Cha, made public a list of culprits involved in the Kim Dae Jung affair. The list, based on a memo made by Kim Hyong Uk, former KCIA director, from what he had heard from Kim Jae Kwon, his former subordinate who was minister at the south Korean embassy in Japan when the Kim Dae Jung affair took place. It contained the names of nine KCIA officials, including Lee Hu Rak (who was a KCIA director at the time) and Kim Jae Kwon.

Coverup Money

"In September, 1973, Cho Joong Hun, president of Korean Air Lines, must have shuttled busily back and forth between Seoul and Tokyo on a secret mission for President Park Chung Hee... The operation to influence Prime Minister Tanaka Kakuei through Osano succeeded. Of course, it was not for love." (Miss Mun's quoted in the Shukan Gendai weekly, Apr. 8, 1976)

Many rumors were circulated at the time about the background of a political settlement reached four months after the outbreak of the incident, without the truth of the affair being unearthed. Miss Mun's remarks were the first statement in printed form that was published about them. This was followed by the Akahata (Japan Communist Party organ), which ran an article (in its issue of Apr. 9, 1976) saying that "300 million was paid to Prime Minister Tanaka as coverup money" on the basis of information obtained indirectly from Ranard. In the Diet, Socialist Dietman Kobayashi Susumu took up the question in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House on Oct. 29, 1976, without mentioning the name of "Tanaka."

This time, it was Dietman Hashimoto who drew out a testimony to the same effect from Ranard (as reported in Japanese newspapers on Jan. 19, 1977), although Ranard later denied the reports. Japanese newspapers reported Ranard made remarks to the effect and that if was not the LDP alone but everyone who was taking a favorable attitude to ROK—that, is to say, persons who were described as the "Korean lobby" to whom ROK gave money.

Campaign Fund

Regarding how the operation to bribe Japanese Dietmen was conducted, the Mainichi Shimbun on Jan. 28 reported Ranard said most of the money from KCIA or the ROK government to the LDP was donated to individuals as contributions to their election campaign funds. He also reportedly said some contributions were made to persuade LDP Dietmen to support policies that were favorable for ROK and that the name of former Prime Minister Kishi Nobusuke, who was known to be the leading figure in Japan's Korean lobby, was mentioned many times in informations of that type.

On the same day, Jiji Press quoted Ranard as saying to the effect that it had been a practice for a long time for the ROK government to make secret contributions to the pro-Korean Dietmen of the LDP and that he would not be surprised if the amounts far exceeded payments to Congressmen of the U.S. (between $500,000 and $1 million).

In a report published in the Asahi Shimbun on Feb. 18, correspondent Murakami Yoshio quoted Ranard as making a more detailed statement to the effect that there was a plan to give 20 to 30 candidates, mainly of the LDP money in the order of several thousand dollars each, with the names of a considerable number of Japanese including former Prime Ministers Kishi and Tanaka being mentioned, and that it was the president of Korean Air Lines who was named more frequently than anyone else on the Korean side in the information reports.

On Feb. 21 the Asahi Shimbun published a report from its Washington correspondent Tsuchida Jutaro that Lee Jae Hyon, former public information chief of the south Korean embassy in Washington, told Noda Satoshi, Socialist member of the House of Councillors, to the following effect:

"At the time of the LDP presidential election in 1972, president Park, who was getting information from the Japan-ROK Cooperation Committee, of which Kishi Nobusuke was chairman, supported Fukuda in the belief he would be elected.

Underground Railway

However, Former Prime Minister Tanaka was elected LDP president, so we had to open a new route to Tanaka. President Park established contact with Tanaka through president Cho Joong Hun of Korean Air Lines and Osano Kenji, owner of Kokusai Kogyo K.K. At the same time president Park eyed Shiina Etsusaburo who was vice-president of the LDP at the time, and the Federation of Japan-ROK Friendship Association was formed with Shiina as its head. Another group that was friendly to ROK was the Seitzn-kai of the LDP.

In September, 1973, Socialist Dietman Matumura Toshihisa raised the question of the construction of an underground railway started in 1971 in Seoul at the House of Representatives Audit Committee, saying that the rolling stock ROK bought through Japanese trading companies (including Mitsubishi Corporation) was unusually high-priced. This time, Lee Jae Hyon, former public information chief at the south Korean embassy in Washington, who is currently associate professor at an Illinois university, disclosed suspicions entertained by the Korean side about the affair for the first time.

According to the Asahi Shimbun on Feb. 7, he declared to the following effect: "It is widely known that the rolling stock bill was twice as much as the market price in Japan. The inflated price was the result of agreement between the ROK government and the Japanese involved. I have heard from a reliable source that the balance between the actually paid price and market price was used as political rebates."

This was immediately followed by Communist Diet member Masanori, Seiji, who attacked the government in an interpellation at the House of Representatives Budget Committee on Feb. 17. (To be continued)

Declaration of Workers' Human Rights (*Full Text*)

The human rights of workers are birthrights and important in the development of the society and the economy. Therefore the human rights of workers should be guaranteed legally. They are inalienable right. It is extremely deplorable that workers have been frequently aggrieved over inhumane sufferings caused by the infringement of their basic rights and the violation of the existing labor laws. It is a crime to remain indifferent to this situation. We, as free men, demand the free and equal relationship with the employers, by severing the anti-democratic and feudalistic relationship with the employers which force workers to unconditionally observe the labor time and the output arbitrarily decided by the employers, ignoring the intention of workers that offer the labor.

The workers must have the rights not only to associate for their own interests but also to negotiate with the employers. As occasion demands, they should have the rights to collectively reject the offer of their labor. The workers and believers, gathered at a Protestant-Catholic joint mass for the human rights of workers, issue the following "declaration of workers' human rights" for the future of the nation and the improvement of workers' social, economic status.

1. Ensure the rights to association, collective bargaining and collective action.

1. Immediately withdraw the "national security law," "law on special measures" and "emergency decrees."

1. The government should recognize autonomous negotiation between the employers and employees and entrust the rights to decide to the workers' own accord.

1. Reject the illegal and inhumane step of the management of forcing 12 or more hours of labor a day under the pretext of export, ignoring an eight-hour labor a day.

1. Demand the strict enforcement of the labor time, a recess, weekly, monthly and yearly holidays and a woman's menstruation holiday as specified in the Labor Standards Law and denounce the employers and management who reject it.

1. Protest against the neglect of the labor agency authorities who leave at large those corporations transgressing the Labor Standards Law and subjecting workers to unnecessary sufferings.

1. Denounce some trade union leaders who cause damage to workers by aligning themselves with the employers and supporting on conniving at the illegal act of enterprises.

1. Denounce the employers for forcing unpaid labor upon workers under the name of the "new village movement" and lining their pocket.

1. The government should institute the minimum wages and ensure the living for those workers that are overworked for starvation wages.

1. Demand a prompt raise in law wages at once, regarding less than 30,000 won a month as starvation wages.

1. Denounce the employers who don't pay an overtime allowance, an allowance for the extra work, the night time, a retiring allowance, a bonus and accident allowance by reason of the temporary work and contract work.

1. Denounce the employers and management for forcing various kinds of menace and intimidation upon workers on the ground that they were connected with the religious groups.

1. Stop holding back the rights of the working people for the introduction of foreign capital. The regime should strictly watch the oppression by foreign capital-operated enterprises.

Tong-A Ilbo: 365 Workdays of Low Wages and Mistreatment

South Korean daily "Tong-a Ilbo" on Feb. 8 carried a story describing the plight of juvenile workers in south Korea, under the headline "365 workdays of low wages and mistreatment."

Teenage workers who should be attending elementary school are increasing every year.

During the period from April to July last, such juvenile workers numbered 1,412; 1,232 were boys and 180 were girls according to the puppet report.

Juvenile workers under 17 years were 1,866 at the end of October last.

Their school education was as follows: only 20 percent of them graduated from junior high schools or left them and 40 percent did not attend even elementary school.

Factories employing these youngsters reached 360 in the beginning of last December.

Most of them had to work in factories because their fathers or mothers were dead.

However, they were treated as "apprentices" because of the "Labour Standards Law." So, in spite of the fact that they work as hard as adult workers, their pay is half that of adult workers.

Most of these youngsters work in household industry such as sewing factories, factories making bags, rubber factories and so on.

There are hardly any equipment to speak of in these factories. They are located in air-tight corners or in dugouts.

These juvenile workers have no special technique, so their work is always hard such as carrying manufactured goods.

They must work 14-18 hours a day. They continue their work without any holiday. Menstruation holidays are unthinkable for girl workers.

At one sewing factory located at Kwanchang-don, Yongdunpo district, a factory owner gave production targets to workers. Then, the owner forced heavy work on the workers by locking the doors of the factory to prevent their flight.

Another factory owner forced youngsters to work by making them take stimulants when they got tired or fell to pieces.

Because of poor equipment at the factories, accidents occur frequently.

In March, 1974, a certain rubber factory at Mapo-ku, Seoul, a boiler exploded, killing ten workers. On Jan. 22, this year, rubber burst and three died at a bag-making factory. In December last, a 14-year-old boy who worked at a stainless steel factory had his hands and legs caught in a conveyer belt. He lost his hands and legs.

Girl workers forced to work at dust-changed small factories

He is a 14-year-old boy Kim Yon Chon. On Dec. 7 last, in the course of his work, his clothes was caught in the machine. Then, his legs was amputated and his arms and faces are severely injured.

He began to work this factory in October last. His work is to burnish manufactured goods by oil. He worked 14 hours a day from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm. His income is 24,000 won per month.

When he was injured, his collegues took him to Tongsam Hospital near the factory. But this hospital rejected him on the ground that medical facilities were unprepared. But, in fact, a boy Kim seemed not to be attended to pay medical fees and the factory owner didn't likely pay for him.

Then, his collegues took him to another hospital. His medical fee increased day by day and it reached to 1,800,000 won during 50 days. The factory owner didn't try to pay for him.

Then, the boy couldn't but get out of the hospital last January. He is checking into Red Cross hospital. But it is doubtful how long he can be treated by this hospital. The boy, though he became crippled, is worried about his family. Because his family get a living by his income.

He is awkwardly situated.

Most of the young workers suffer from occupational diseases. A 22-year-old girl worker, Kim, is troubled with a bad cough, suffering from tuberculosis of the lung. She has to work hard for 12-17 hours a day at a sewing factory. But she didn't try to find a hospital. Of course, a doctor's fee is high. But, a more important problem for her is not to have her illness found out by the factory owner. Because, if her illness is found out by him, she would be kicked out of the factory at once.

Another 20-year-old girl worker could not take a meal at a lunch time because of her heavy work. Then, she came to suffer from chronic indigestion.

Most of these young workers were born into poor families. In order to get a living, they stopped going to school and began to work.

A survey was carried out by a professor of Riwha Women's University, covering 70 girl workers, who worked at factories in Seoul and Inchon.

According to his report, most of them came from peasants' or workers' families. Eighteen workers were from unemployed families. Over 50 percent of these young workers completed elementary school. Only 5 percent attended high school.

Though they work hard and are severely exploited, they received low wages as "apprentices."

A 16-year-old girl receives only 12,000 won per month; another girl receives 9,000 or 15,000 won per month.

Their first monthly income can't reach to 10,000 won. If they work several months, their wages are only 20,000 won.

In the case of a 17-year-old girl worker, Chon, she got poisoned by harmful gass. Without a holiday or even a menstruation holiday, she worked from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm a day.

Thus her income is mere 22,000 won per month, including her overtime allowance.

From her income, 5,000 won is spent for her room rent; 13,000 won for food; 700 won for electric lighting and water service charges and 2,100 won for bus fare.

The money left over is only 1,200 won. Savings or remittance to her home are unthinkable.

A certain Choe, 19 years old, who worked as an assistant at a sewing factory received only 500 won a day. Though she worked there for one and half year from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm, her income is only just 15,000 won.

A 15-year-old boy who works at an iron works from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm a day receives only 13,000 won.

In these circumstances, in order to make their living, some girl workers work at bars. Some boy workers work as shoeblacks, trash pickers and so on.

According to the south Korean newspaper, 58 percent of the youngsters become shoeblacks, 27 percent trash pickers, 8 percent newsboys and 6 percent hawkers.

Juvenile glass workers working in hazardous environments

Sin-Tong-A Magazine: Subhuman Level Wages in S. Korea

The deplorable plight of the south Korean workers is graphically indicated by their low wages. Their average wage is less than a tenth of that in the U.S., a fourth to a fifth of that in Japan, France and Italy and the lowest in the Asian countries.

Follows an excerpt of an article of the May, 1976 issue of Sin-Tong-A," a prestigious monthly magazine, written by Pak Yong Sung, lecturer at the law and government college of Riwha Women's University.

Industrialisation and Low Wages

Sharp price rises caused by changes in the international natural resources market in the past two years have brought forward the problem of low wages in our country as a serious social problem.

As the need to stabilize the living of fixed income earners, in particular, low wage earners, has become a major social problem as a result of the acceleration of inflation imported from abroad after the oil crisis, the government is required to take steps to get rid of low wages and take such measures as wage raises and adjustments. However, if we view things more fundamentally, we will find that the present low-wage problem originates in the industrialization of our country as part of its economic development, which preceded the sharp price rises of natural resources.

In the 1960's, the number of wage labourers rapidly increased as a result of the high economic growth of the country, centered on industrialization, and so the wage problem directly related to the living of working people became an important problem.

The difficulty in the solution of low wages, a serious social problem, can be attributed to the oversupply of labour in our country. People must not a job anyhow, even if no reasonable wage can be guaranteed in the present situation in which the pressure of oversupply is strong on the market. Another reason is that the government and enterprises are not able to cope with this problem. The government considers that to increase job opportunities by the accumulation of capital and high economic growth is more urgent than to realize reasonable wages, in the light of the oversupply of labour in our country, a developing country. As low wages are our country's only resort in winning in competition in foreign markets, elimination of low wages will deal a telling blow at export vital to our country's economic growth.

Enterprises, confronting working people in the distribution of profits, admit, it is true, that an extreme low wage is undesirable. But, they assume a conservative attitude toward raising wage levels, fearing increased difficulties in management and bankruptcy.

However, if economic development and industrialization are ultimately aimed at improving the living and welfare of the majority of people, the government cannot afford to continue the policy of export expansion and high economic growth through low wages. It is high time that the government raised the extremely low wages which make it difficult for the people to stabilize their living and to reproduce and maintain labour force, and took positive measure to raise working people's income.

Industry-by-Industry Breakdown of Low Wages

As we have already seen, the focal point of our country's wage problem is the low wage level and extreme wage differentials. The latest data tell us that the average wage of employees in the manufacturing industries of our country was less than a tenth of that in the United States, West Germany and Canada and a fifth to an eighth of that in England, Italy, France and Japan in 1974.

Wage differences between our country and developed countries were a little reduced last year as a result of relatively high wage raises carried out last year. But the average wage in our country is still a tenth of that in the United States and a fourth to a fifth of that in Japan, France and Italy. Even if compared with developing countries in Asia, whose stage of economic development is similar to that of our country, our country's wage level is about half of that in Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan in 1973.

Wage levels will be more clearly understood when compared with living cost. The average monthly wage of employees in the manufacturing industries of south Korea was 37,511 *won* (one dollar is approximately 484 won) as of August, 1975, and the average monthly living cost of working people in urban areas was 68,550 *won* from July to September of the same year. In short, wages are 54.7 percent of the living costs.

In cities, 1.34 persons per household are working. Even if this is taken into account, the monthly average income of employees in the manufacturing industries is 18,000 *won* less than the living costs, or the level of living is sub-standard.

The more fundamental problem is the fact that the majority of working people endure wages far less than the average wage because of extreme wage differentials between jobs, industries and enterprise scales. According to data in 1975 issued by the earned income tax department of the Office of National Tax Administration, the income of 87.4 percent of all the working people didn't reach the living cost of the working people in cities in the first quarter of the same year.

Further, 81.9 percent of those with only untaxable income, had an average monthly income of less than 30,000 *won*.

If you examine wage differentials in the manufacturing industries according to statictics released by the Office of Labour Affairs in August 1975, you will see the following facts:

First of all, industry-wise, the lowest wage or 25,063 *won* is paid by the clothing industry and the highest 96,532 *won* by oil refinery industry. The latter is 3.8 times the former. Occupation-wise, production workers get an average wage of 32,140 *won* and clerical workers 65,018 *won*. The latter wage is 2.6 times the former.

The average monthly wage of male employees in the manufacturing industries is 49,776 *won* and that of female employees 24,053 *won*. That is more than two times females' wages. If this income is divided by the average number of family members in urban areas, average personal spending is 12,780 *won*.

Furthermore, if we take additional expenses such as commuter expense into account, low wage workers cannot adequately support their families. The wages in the mining industry show more clearly that the monthly wage of low wage workers cannot satisfy their basic needs as workers. It can be said that male employees in the mining industry are mostly household heads. In the non-metal ore mining industry, the average wage of male workers is 34,749 *won*, in spite of 208.4 working hours per month.

If we study wage levels in terms of working hours, 8 hour wages will be much lower, as production workers in the manufacturing industries work 10.1 hours a day. In short, workers in our country, especially low wage workers get wages too low to wage the living cost, in spite of overtime work.

Trend in Wages and Distribution of Income

The nominal wages of workers in the manufacturing industries in our country during the period from 1965 to 1975 indicated a high annual growth rate of 23.5 per cent thanks to increased employment which follow the high economic development and also to the shortage of skilled persons in certain industrial sectors.

But because of an annual 12.2 per cent raise in the consumer prices during the same period, the growth rate of real income was no more than 10 per cent and did not reach the annual 13.8 per cent growth rate of productivity.

Theoretically, in order to maintain the rate of earned income in national income, or in order to maintain labor's relative share on a fixed level, the increase in nominal wages corresponding to the growth rate of labor productivity must be attained so long as the scale of employment does not fluctuate.

As for the rate of reward of distribution to employees in the national income of our country, it increased steadily every year from 30.9 per cent in 1965 to 39 per cent in 1971. This reflects the fact of rapidly increased employment as well as of a relatively high increase in real income.

However, the rate of distribution to employees began to decrease in 1972 and slipped to 36.8 per cent in 1974, due to the rapidly slowed down growth rate of nominal wages under the impact of the depression and sharp fluctuations in the prices of international resources.

On the other hand, the rate of personnel costs to the value-added production in the manufacturing industries also indicates a upward tendency from 1965 to 1971, although there were minor fluctuations. But it decreased again from 1972.

The reduced rate of remunerations to employees in the calculation of national income or the labor's lowered relative share in the distribution of the added value production of enterprises implies that earned income, relatively speaking, decreases compared with real income or unearned income.

Especially, even if labor's relative share is maintained on a fixed level, the relative wage standard cannot but decrease in case the scale of employment enlarges.

In our country, the number of non-farmer wage workers among the employees continued rising even during the period when labor's relative share indicated a declining tendency from 1972, let alone during the period when it increased. This means the relative wage level is declining more.

That the workers of our country have been suffering from low wages particularly since the early 1970's is clear from the fact that the rate of food expenses in the family budget or Engel's coefficient increased from 40.6 per cent in 1970 to 45.2 per cent in 1975.

That labor's relative share in the distribution of profits in our country is relatively, not to mention absolutely, low, can be realized through an international comparison. Thus, the rate of remunerations to employees to national income in advanced countries such as the U.S., England and West Germany increased from 60-73 per cent in 1960 to 67-80 per cent in 1970. In Japan, it also rose from 50 per cent to 54 per cent during the same period.

The labor's low relative share in the distribution of profits can cause a no less serious social problem than the problem of absolutely low wage levels in that the people in the lower income brackets are resented over the high consumption standard of some high income class people, resulting in causing social discord.

Low Wages and National Economy

Viewed from a national economic standpoint, the problem of overproduction caused by the relative reduction of effective demand must be cited as an effect of low wages.

It is claimed that especially in a country like ours where capital accumulation is weak, the reduction of internal reserves caused by wage increases encroaches upon investment funds and hinders economic development.

But wage income functions not merely as a consumption department, but it is a basis for realizing reproduction on an enlarged scale by creating effective demand domestically.

It goes without saying that increased capital spending, which is not supported by effective demand, sooner or later, gives rise to surplus production facilities and wasteful use of resources.

In fact, we experienced in the reconstruction period right after the Korean War, the situation of surplus equipment which was brought about by the expansion of equipment in the flour-milling and sugar refining industries regardless of effective demand. This situation still continues today.

As a solution of the problem of short domestic demand, export to foreign markets is stressed. But this is not desirable because it makes the national economy more dependent on foreign countries.

It was basically in order to secure revenue sources for equipment investment and foreign capital necessary for purchasing raw materials that the country had to pursue an export-oriented growth policy in the course of economic development during that period. On the other hand, the shortage of domestic demand was also a big factor.

This export-oriented growth policy is regarded as a success in the light of its past achievements. But if considered from a longer-term and more basic viewpoint, it contains in itself the problem that both only the national economy is affected by changes in conditions given in foreign markets, but that achievements of economic development are lost to foreign countries as trading conditions aggravate.

The priority to export principle which was promoted during that time has made the national economy dependent on export 31.1 per cent in 1975—6.1 per cent in 1962—and its dependence on foreign trade, imports included, rose from 23.1 per cent in 1962 and to 75.3 per cent in 1975.

The development formula of this kind makes our country's rate of dependence on trade inevitably reach 100 per cent in the 1980's by making the import of raw materials and equipment and export of processed goods a fixed circulation structure of the national economy.

In order to reduce this rate of dependence on foreign countries and to realize economic independence, the domestic markets must be expanded through elimination of low wages at home as well as through construction of an integrated industrial structure.

Foreign trade should originally be for the purpose of complementing domestic balance. Only when domestic markets are expanded, export itself as well as the national economy can achieve a stable and continuous expansion.

The policy of low grain prices which has been followed under the pretext of stabilizing the people's living standard and that of promoting import of foreign surplus farm products for the purpose have reduced domestic agricultural production relatively, and the rate of dependence on foreign countries in the supply of food stuff has risen.

A similar phenomenon is seen in the energy industries at home, too.

The stagnation of industries supplying basic necessities, especially the primary industries, for which the maintenance of low wages is responsible, has made domestic industries sever their mutually complementary relationships as supply markets and demand markets. Thus, the newly constructed secondary industries are included as specialization branches in the economies of foreign countries, without forming an integrated circulation structure of reproduction. This tendency runs counter to an independent development of the national economy.

When each domestic industry forms part of a foreign industrial structure in two fields, supply and demand, a problem is caused—not only rippling effects of economic development are lost abroad, but trading conditions aggravate due to the loss of leadership in foreign markets.

In such a case, there is a danger of a impoverishment growth due to "social dumping" because more exports are needed for the sake of maintaining the balance of international payment and lower wages are required to be maintained at home.

▶ Workers carrying on their works in the backward handicraft way

Low wage workers

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